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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A diffractive optical element includes a pair of diffraction gratings. The pair of diffraction gratings differ in dispersion from each other and confront each other through a space of a refractive index of 1. A maximum optical path length difference occurring in the pair of diffraction gratings with respect to each of at least two wavelengths is integer times the associated wavelength. Further, peak portions and valley portions of the pair of diffraction gratings are chamfered.

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